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# ENDPOINT INEQUALITIES FOR BOCHNER-RIESZ MULTIPLIERS IN THE PLANE

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A weak-type inequality is proved for Bochner-Riesz means at the critical index, for functions in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $1 \le p < 4/3$ .

### 1. Introduction.

For a Schwartz-function  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  let  $\widehat{f}(\xi) = \int f(y)e^{-i\langle y,\xi\rangle}dy$  denote the Fourier transform and define the Bochner-Riesz means by

$$S_R^{\lambda} f(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{|\xi| < R} \left( 1 - \frac{|\xi|^2}{R^2} \right)^{\lambda} \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{i\langle x, \xi \rangle} \, d\xi;$$

we set  $S^{\lambda}=S_1^{\lambda}$ . It is a classical theorem of Bochner that  $S^{\lambda}$  extends to a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  if  $\lambda > 1/2$ . The theorem of Carleson and Sjölin [2] states that  $S^{\lambda}$  is bounded in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$  if  $0 < \lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{4}{3+2\lambda} . It is well known that the <math>L^p$  boundedness fails if  $p \leq \frac{4}{3+2\lambda}$  and C. Fefferman [11] showed that  $S^0$  is not bounded in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$  if  $p \neq 2$ .

In this paper we are concerned with endpoint estimates for the critical exponent  $p_0(\lambda) = \frac{4}{3+2\lambda}$ . In [4, 5] M. Christ proved that  $S^{\lambda}$  is of weak type  $(p_0(\lambda), p_0(\lambda))$  if  $1/6 < \lambda \le 1/2$  (for related results see also [6, 15]). A combination of  $L^2$ -variants of Calderón-Zygmund theory (as used first by Fefferman [10]) and the  $L^p \to L^2$  restriction theorem for the Fourier transform (valid for  $p \le 6/5 = p_0(1/6)$ ) is essential in Christ's analysis; this accounts for the restriction  $\lambda > 1/6$ . It had been an open problem whether the weak type inequality for the critical index  $\lambda(p) = 2(1/p - 1/2) - 1/2$  is true for  $6/5 \le p < 4/3$  (although for radial functions this was proved by Chanillo and Muckenhoupt [3]).

**Theorem 1.1.** Suppose that  $0 < \lambda \le 1/2$ . Then for all  $\alpha > 0$  there is the weak-type inequality

$$\left| \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |S^{\lambda} f(x)| > \alpha \} \right| \le C \frac{\|f\|_{p_0}^{p_0}}{\alpha^{p_0}}, \qquad p_0 = \frac{4}{3+2\lambda},$$

where C does not depend on f or  $\alpha$ .

By scaling the same estimate holds for  $S_R^{\lambda}$ , uniformly in R, and a standard argument gives that  $\lim_{R\to\infty} S_R^{\lambda} f = f$  in the topology of the weak type space  $L^{p_0\infty}$  provided that  $f\in L^{p_0}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

We shall also prove an  $L^p$  endpoint version of the Carleson-Sjölin theorem. Define

(1.1) 
$$m_{\lambda,\gamma}(\xi) = \frac{(1-|\xi|^2)_+^{\lambda}}{(1-\log(1-|\xi|^2))^{\gamma}}.$$

**Theorem 1.2.** Suppose that  $1 \le p < 4/3$  and  $\lambda(p) = 2\left(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $m_{\lambda(p),\gamma}$  is a Fourier multiplier of  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$  if and only if  $\gamma > \frac{1}{p}$ .

The necessity of the condition  $\gamma > 1/p$  was proved in [14], the sufficiency for  $p \le 6/5$  in [15].

In what follows c and C will always be positive numbers which may assume different values in different formulas.

### 2. Strong type estimates.

For an interval I on the real line denote by  $I^*$  the interval with same midpoint and double length. Suppose  $\mathfrak{I}=\{I_j\}_{j\geq 0}$  is a collection of intervals such that  $I_j\subset (1/4,4)$  and  $2^{-j-3}\leq |I_j|\leq 2^{-j}$  and such that

$$I_i^* \cap I_{i'}^* = \emptyset$$
 if  $j \neq j'$ .

For each  $j \geq 0$  let  $\psi_j$  be a  $C^2$ -function supported in  $I_j$  with bounds

$$\|\psi_j^{(\ell)}\|_{\infty} \le 2^{j\ell}, \quad \ell = 0, 1, 2.$$

Let  $\eta \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  such supp $(\eta) \subset \{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |\xi_1/\xi_2| \le 10^{-1}, \, \xi_2 > 0\}$ . Define the operator  $T_j$  by

(2.1) 
$$\widehat{T_j f}(\xi) = \eta(\xi) \psi_j(|\xi|) \widehat{f}(\xi).$$

 $T_j$  is a bounded operator on  $L^1$  with operator norm  $O(2^{j/2})$ , and Córdoba [8] showed that the  $L^{4/3}$  operator norm of  $T_j$  is  $O(j^{1/4})$ . We note that in order to prove results such as Theorem 1.2 for p > 1 it is not sufficient to derive sharp  $L^p$  bounds for the individual operators  $T_j$ . Our main result is

**Theorem 2.1.** Suppose that  $1 \le p < 4/3$  and  $\lambda(p) = 2\left(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\Im$ ,  $T_j$  are as above. Then there is the inequality

$$\left\| \sum_{j} T_{j} f_{j} \right\|_{p} \leq C \left( \sum_{j} \left[ 2^{j\lambda(p)} \left\| f_{j} \right\|_{p} \right]^{p} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

In particular if

(2.3) 
$$m = \sum_{j} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} a_j \eta(\xi) \psi_j(|\xi|)$$

then m is a Fourier multiplier of  $L^p$  if  $\{a_j\} \in \ell^p$  (simply apply Theorem 2.1 with  $f_j = a_j 2^{-j\lambda(p)} f$ ). It is easy to see that the multiplier  $m_{\lambda,\gamma}$  in (1.1) is a finite sum of a smooth compactly supported function and rotates of multipliers of the form (2.3), with  $a_j = cj^{-\gamma}$ . Therefore Theorem 2.1 implies Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 2.1 By duality the inequality (2.2) is equivalent to

(2.4) 
$$\left( \sum_{j} \left[ 2^{-j\lambda(q')} \| T_{j} f \|_{q} \right]^{q} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq C \| f \|_{q}, \qquad q > 4.$$

As in [8] one decomposes each  $\psi_j(|\cdot|)$  into pieces which are essentially supported in rectangles of dimensions  $(c2^{-j/2},c2^{-j})$ . To this end let  $\beta \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$  be supported in (-1,1) such that  $\sum_{\nu=-\infty}^{\infty}\beta(s-\nu)=1$  for all  $s\in\mathbb{R}$ . Then define  $T_j^{\nu}$  by

$$\widehat{T_i^{\nu}f}(\xi) = \beta(2^{j/2}\xi_1 - \nu)\widehat{T_if}(\xi).$$

For  $n \leq j/2$  let

$$\mathfrak{Z}_{i}^{n} = \{ (\nu, \nu') \in \mathbb{Z}^{2} : 2^{j/2-n-1} < |\nu - \nu'| \le 2^{j/2-n} \}.$$

Notice that  $T_j^{\nu}f T_j^{\nu'}f = 0$  if  $(\nu, \nu') \in \mathfrak{Z}_j^n$  and n < 0. Therefore

$$\left(\sum_{j} \left[2^{-j\lambda(q')} \| T_{j} f \|_{q}\right]^{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
= \left(\sum_{j} \left[2^{-2j\lambda(q')} \left\|\sum_{\nu} \sum_{\nu'} T_{j}^{\nu} f T_{j}^{\nu'} f \right\|_{\frac{q}{2}}\right]^{\frac{1}{q}}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \\
\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{j\geq 2n} \left[2^{-2j\lambda(q')} \left\|\sum_{(\nu,\nu')\in\mathfrak{Z}_{j}^{n}} T_{j}^{\nu} f T_{j}^{\nu'} f \right\|_{\frac{q}{2}}\right]^{\frac{q}{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}}$$

We shall show that for  $q \geq 4$  the  $n^{\rm th}$  term in (2.5) is bounded by  $C2^{-n(1/2-2/q)}\|f\|_q$  from which (2.4) immediately follows. This is contained in

**Proposition 2.2.** For  $f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  let

$$\mathcal{B}_{j}^{n}(f,g) \,=\, \sum_{(\nu,\nu')\in\mathfrak{Z}_{+}^{n}} T_{j}^{\nu} f\, T_{j}^{\nu'} g.$$

Then for  $q \geq 4$  there is the inequality

$$(2.6) \qquad \left(\sum_{j\geq 2n} \left[2^{-2j\lambda(q')} \|\mathcal{B}_{j}^{n}(f,g)\|_{\frac{q}{2}}\right]^{\frac{q}{2}}\right)^{\frac{2}{q}} \leq C2^{-n(1-\frac{4}{q})} \|f\|_{q} \|g\|_{q}.$$

*Proof.* The inequality follows by complex interpolation for bilinear mappings from the cases q=4 and  $q=\infty$ . The correct interpretation of (2.6) for  $q=\infty$  is of course

$$\sup_{j} 2^{-j} \left\| \sum_{(\nu,\nu') \in \mathfrak{Z}_{j}^{n}} T_{j}^{\nu} f \, T_{j}^{\nu'} g \right\|_{\infty} \leq C 2^{-n} \|f\|_{\infty} \|g\|_{\infty}.$$

But this is immediate since each operator  $T_j^{\nu}$  is bounded on  $L^{\infty}$  with norm independent of j and  $\nu$  and since the cardinality of  $\mathfrak{Z}_n^j$  is bounded by  $C2^{j/2} \times 2^{j/2-n} = C2^{j-n}$ .

We shall now prove the required estimate for q = 4 which is

(2.7) 
$$\left( \sum_{j \ge 2n} \| \mathcal{B}_j^n(f, g) \|_2^2 \right)^{1/2} \le C \| f \|_4 \| g \|_4$$

uniformly in n.

We first use Plancherel's theorem and C. Fefferman's basic observation ([12, 8]) that for fixed j the sets  $\operatorname{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu}f}) + \operatorname{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu}g})$  are essentially disjoint; that is each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is contained in at most M of these sets where M is independent of j. This yields the inequality

(2.8) 
$$\sum_{j\geq 2n} \|\mathcal{B}_{j}^{n}(f,g)\|_{2}^{2} \leq C \sum_{j\geq 2n} \sum_{(\nu,\nu')\in\mathfrak{J}_{i}^{n}} \|T_{j}^{\nu}f T_{j}^{\nu'}g\|_{2}^{2}$$

It is crucial for this proof that a finer decomposition can be made depending on how far apart the supports of  $\widehat{T_j^{\nu}f}$  and  $\widehat{T_j^{\nu'}g}$  are, that is, depending on n. We define operators  $T_j^{\nu\mu}$  by

$$\widehat{T_j^{\nu\mu}f}(\xi) \,=\, \beta(2^{j-n}\xi_1-\mu)\widehat{T_j^{\nu}f}(\xi)$$

so that  $\widehat{T_j^{\nu\mu}f}$  is supported in a rectangle of dimensions  $(C2^{-j+n}, C2^{-j})$ . Again one can check that for fixed j and fixed  $(\nu, \nu') \in \mathfrak{Z}_j^n$  each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is contained in at most M of the sets  $E_{jn\nu\nu'}^{\mu\mu'} = \operatorname{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu\mu}f}) + \operatorname{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu'\mu'}g})$  where

M is independent of  $j, \nu, \nu'$ . Each  $E_{jn\nu\nu'}^{\mu\mu'}$  is contained in a rectangle of dimensions  $(C'2^{-j+n}, C'2^{-j})$ . For fixed  $j, \nu, \nu'$  there are no more than  $C''2^{(j-2n)}$  of these rectangles and they form an essentially disjoint cover of  $\mathrm{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu}f}) + \mathrm{supp}(\widehat{T_j^{\nu}g})$ , the latter set being contained in a rectangle of dimensions  $(C2^{-j/2}, C2^{-j/2-n})$ . The disjointness property and Plancherel's theorem imply that

(2.9) 
$$\sum_{j\geq 2n} \|\mathcal{B}_{j}^{n}(f,g)\|_{2}^{2} \leq C \sum_{j\geq 2n} \sum_{\mu,\mu'} \sum_{(\nu,\nu')\in\mathfrak{Z}_{i}^{n}} \|T_{j}^{\nu\mu}f T_{j}^{\nu'\mu'}g\|_{2}^{2}.$$

For any integer  $\kappa$  with  $|\kappa| \leq 2^n$  let

$$\mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa} = \{ \mu \in \mathbb{Z} : |2^{n-j}\mu - 2^{-n}\kappa| \le 2^{-n} \}.$$

Then observe that (2.10)

$$T_j^{\nu\mu}f\,T_j^{\nu'\mu'}g=0\qquad \text{if } (\nu,\nu')\in\mathfrak{Z}_j^n,\ \mu\in\mathfrak{W}_{jn}^\kappa,\ \mu'\in\mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa'},\ |\kappa-\kappa'|\geq 8.$$

Indeed, if  $\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}$ ,  $\mu' \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa'}$ ,  $T_{j}^{\nu\mu}fT_{j}^{\nu'\mu'}g \neq 0$  then  $|2^{n-j}\mu - 2^{-j/2}\nu| \leq 2^{-j/2+1}$  and  $|2^{n-j}\mu' - 2^{-j/2}\nu'| \leq 2^{-j/2+1}$ . If  $(\nu,\nu') \in \mathfrak{Z}_{j}^{n}$  this implies that  $|2^{n-j}(\mu-\mu')| \leq 2^{-j/2+2} + 2^{-n} \leq 5 \cdot 2^{-n}$  and therefore  $|\kappa-\kappa'| \leq 7$ , hence (2.10). Moreover we note that for  $\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}$  the support of  $\widehat{T_{j}^{\nu\mu}f}$  is essentially a rectangle with eccentricity  $2^{-n}$  such that the directions of its sides depend on  $\kappa$  but not on  $\mu$ .

By (2.9) and (2.10) we obtain that

$$\sum_{j\geq 2n} \|\mathcal{B}_j^n(f,g)\|_2^2$$

$$\leq C \sum_{j \geq 2n} \sum_{\kappa} \sum_{\substack{\kappa' \\ |\kappa' - \kappa| < 8}} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_{j}^{\nu\mu} f|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \sum_{\mu' \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa'}} \sum_{\nu'} |T_{j}^{\nu'\mu'} g|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

$$\leq C' \sum_{j \geq 2n} \sum_{\kappa} \sum_{\substack{\kappa' \\ |\kappa' - \kappa| < 8}} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_{j}^{\nu\mu} f|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{4}^{2} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu' \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa'}} \sum_{\nu'} |T_{j}^{\nu'\mu'} g|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{4}^{2}$$

$$\leq C'' \left( \sum_{j \geq 2n} \sum_{\kappa} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_{j}^{\nu\mu} f|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{4}^{4} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\left( \sum_{j \geq 2n} \sum_{\kappa} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_{j}^{\nu\mu} g|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{4}^{4} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} .$$

Therefore the desired estimate (2.7) follows from the case q=4 of the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3.** For  $q \geq 2$  there is the inequality

(2.11) 
$$\left( \sum_{j \geq 2n} \sum_{\kappa} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_{j}^{\nu\mu} f|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{q}^{q} \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq C \|f\|_{q}$$

where C does not depend on n.

*Proof.* It suffices to prove (2.11) for q=2 and  $q=\infty$ . Let  $h_j^{\nu\mu}$  be the Fourier multiplier defining  $T_i^{\nu\mu}$ .

For fixed  $\mu$  and j there are at most three  $\nu$  such that  $T_j^{\nu\mu} \neq 0$  and since the supports of the functions  $\psi_j$  are disjoint it follows that each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is contained in at most 6 of the sets supp  $h_j^{\mu\nu}$ . Moreover for fixed  $\mu$  and j there are at most two  $\kappa$  such that  $\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}$ . Now (2.11) for q = 2 is an immediate consequence of Plancherel's theorem.

In order to check the required estimate for  $q = \infty$  we consider for a fixed  $\mathfrak{a} = \{a_{\nu\mu}\} \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^2)$  the multiplier

$$m_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa}(\xi) = \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{i\pi}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} a_{\nu\mu} h_{j}^{\nu\mu}(\xi)$$

and denote by  $K_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa}$  its inverse Fourier transform.

Let  $e_1^{\kappa}=(2^{-n}\kappa,\sqrt{1-2^{-2n}\kappa^2})$  and  $e_2^{\kappa}=(-\sqrt{1-2^{-2n}\kappa^2},2^{-n}\kappa)$  and let  $L_{jn}^{\kappa}$  be the symmetric linear transformation in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with  $L_{jn}^{\kappa}e_1^{\kappa}=2^{j}e_1^{\kappa}$ ,  $L_{jn}^{\kappa}e_2^{\kappa}=2^{j-n}e_2^{\kappa}$ . Then  $h_j^{\nu\mu}(L_{jn}^{\kappa}\cdot)$  is supported in a cube  $Q_j^{\nu\mu}$  of sidelength 10 and for fixed j the cubes  $Q_j^{\nu\mu}$  have finite overlap, uniformly in j. Moreover it is easy to see that for  $\mu\in\mathfrak{W}_{jn}^{\kappa}$ 

$$\left\| \frac{\partial^{\alpha}}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} \left[ h_{j}^{\nu\mu}(L_{jn}^{\kappa} \cdot) \right] \right\|_{\infty} \leq C, \qquad |\alpha| \leq 2.$$

Since the Sobolev-space  $L_2^2$  is a subspace of  $\widehat{L^1}$  we obtain that

$$\begin{split} \|K_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa}\|_{1} &= \|2^{-2j+n}K_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa}((L_{jn}^{\kappa})^{-1}\cdot)\|_{1} \\ &\leq C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \left\| \sum_{\mu,\nu} a_{\nu\mu} \frac{\partial^{\alpha}}{\partial \xi^{\alpha}} \left[ h_{j}^{\nu\mu}(L_{jn}^{\kappa}\cdot) \right] \right\|_{2} \\ &\leq C' \left( \sum_{\mu,\nu} |a_{\nu\mu}|^{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{split}$$

where C' does not depend on j,  $\kappa$  and  $\mathfrak{a}$ . This implies

$$\sup_{j\geq 2n} \sup_{\kappa} \left\| \left( \sum_{\mu \in \mathfrak{W}_{j_n}^{\kappa}} \sum_{\nu} |T_j^{\nu\mu} f|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{\infty}$$

$$= \sup_{j\geq 2n} \sup_{\kappa} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} \sup_{\|\mathfrak{a}\|_{\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^2)} \leq 1} |K_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa} * f(x)|$$

$$\leq \sup_{j\geq 2n} \sup_{\kappa} \sup_{\|\mathfrak{a}\|_{\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}^2)} \leq 1} \|K_{\mathfrak{a}}^{j\kappa}\|_1 \|f\|_{\infty} \leq C \|f\|_{\infty}$$

which is the desired estimate for  $q = \infty$ .

### Remarks.

- (a) For  $q = \infty$  the inequality (2.11) is closely related to an estimate on square-functions with respect to an equally spaced decomposition, see *e.g.* [9, 13]; in fact it can be obtained from these estimates.
- (b) A variant of the above proof can be used to obtain the known sharp  $L^4$  bound  $||T_j||_{L^4\to L^4}=O(j^{1/4})$  without making use of the sharp  $L^2$  bounds for Kakeya-maximal functions.
- (c) The observation concerning the overlapping properties of supp  $\widehat{T_j^{\nu'\mu}f}$  + supp  $\widehat{T_j^{\nu'\mu'}g}$  can be used to improve on some bounds for sectorial square-functions in Córdoba [9]. This has been observed by A. Carbery and the author.
- (d) The decomposition in terms of the bilinear operators  $\mathcal{B}_{j}^{n}$  is related to a decomposition used by Carbery [1] in his work on weighted inequalities for the maximal Bochner-Riesz operator  $S_{\star}^{\lambda}$ . The techniques above can be used to prove new weighted inequalities for  $S_{\star}^{\lambda}$ .

### 3. Weak type estimates.

Let  $\Im$  be a family of disjoint intervals as introduced in  $\S 2$  and let  $T_j$  be as in (2.1). Define

$$T^{\lambda} f = \sum_{j \ge 0} 2^{-j\lambda} T_j f.$$

We shall prove the estimate

$$\left|\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |T^{\lambda(p)}f(x)| > \alpha\right\}\right| \le C \frac{\|f\|_p^p}{\alpha^p}, \qquad p < \frac{4}{3}$$

where  $\lambda(p) = 2(1/p - 1/2) - 1/2$  and C does not depend on f or  $\alpha$ . Of course Theorem 1.1 is a consequence of (3.1).

As in [5] the proof is based on an interpolation. The argument uses Theorem 2.1 and known estimates previously obtained in the proof of weak-type (1,1) inequalities (see [4, 7, 15]).

Let  $f \in L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$  where  $1 \leq p < \frac{4}{3}$  and let  $\alpha > 0$ . In order to estimate the quantity on the left hand side of (3.1) we apply the Calderón-Zygmund decomposition to  $|f|^p$  at height  $\alpha^p$ . We obtain a decomposition f = g + b where  $||g||_{\infty} \leq C\alpha$ ,  $||g||_p \leq C||f||_p$ ,  $b = \sum_Q b_Q$ , supp  $b_Q \subset Q$ , the squares Q are pairwise disjoint,  $||b_Q||_p^p \leq C\alpha^p|Q|$ ,  $\sum_Q |Q| \leq C\alpha^{-p}||f||_p^p$ ; and as a consequence  $\alpha^{p-2}||g||_2^2 + ||b||_p^p \leq C||f||_p^p$ .

Let l(Q) be the sidelength of Q and  $B_j = \sum_{Q:l(Q)=2^j} b_Q$  if j>0 and  $B_0 = \sum_{Q:l(Q)<0} b_Q$ . Then

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |T^{\lambda(p)}f(x)| > \alpha\} \subset \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2 \cup \Omega_3 \cup \Omega_4 \cup \Omega_5$$

where  $\Omega_1$  is the union of the double squares  $Q^*$  and

$$\Omega_{2} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{2} : \left| T^{\lambda(p)} g(x) \right| > \frac{\alpha}{5} \right\} 
\Omega_{3} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{2} : \left| \sum_{s \geq 0} \sum_{j > s} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} T_{j} B_{j-s}(x) \right| > \frac{\alpha}{5} \right\} 
\Omega_{4} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{2} : \left| \sum_{j \geq 0} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} T_{j} B_{0}(x) \right| > \frac{\alpha}{5} \right\} 
\Omega_{5} = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^{2} \setminus \Omega_{1} : \left| \sum_{\sigma > 0} \sum_{j \geq 0} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} T_{j} B_{j+\sigma}(x) \right| > \frac{\alpha}{5} \right\}.$$

By the disjointness of the squares Q we have

$$|\Omega_1| \le \sum_{Q} |Q^*| \le C \frac{\|f\|_p^p}{\alpha^p}$$

and Chebyshev's inequality and the  $L^2$ -boundedness of  $T^{\lambda}$  imply

$$|\Omega_2| \le C \frac{\|T^{\lambda}g\|_2^2}{\alpha^2} \le C' \frac{\|g\|_2^2}{\alpha^2} \le C'' \frac{\|f\|_p^p}{\alpha^p}.$$

Next we choose r such that p < r < 4/3. We shall show that the following estimates hold with  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{r}{p} - 1)$ .

(3.2) 
$$\left\| \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} T_j B_{j-s} \right\|_r^r \le C 2^{-\epsilon s} \alpha^{r-p} \|b\|_p^p, \qquad s \ge 0,$$

(3.3) 
$$||2^{-j\lambda(p)}T_jB_0||_r^r \le C2^{-\epsilon j}\alpha^{r-p}||b||_p^p, \qquad j \ge 0,$$

(3.4) 
$$\left\| \sum_{j \geq 0} 2^{-j\lambda(p)} T_j B_{j+\sigma} \right\|_{L^p(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \Omega_1)}^p \leq C 2^{-\varepsilon\sigma} \|b\|_p^p, \qquad \sigma \geq 0.$$

From (3.2-3.4) it follows by applications of Minkowski's and Chebyshev's inequalities that

$$|\Omega_3| + |\Omega_4| + |\Omega_5| \le C \frac{\|b\|_p^p}{\alpha^p} \le C' \frac{\|f\|_p^p}{\alpha^p}.$$

In order to prove (3.2-4) we use analytic interpolation (i.e. the Phragmen-Lindelöf principle) similarly as in [5]. For  $Re(z) \in [0, 1]$  define

$$B_{j,z}(x) = |B_j(x)|^{p[(1-z)+z/r]} \operatorname{sign}(B_j(x))$$

and

$$\gamma(z) = 2\left(1 - z + \frac{z}{r} - \frac{1}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2}.$$

Since  $2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)}T_j$  is a bounded operator on  $L^1$  with norm independent of j we obtain

(3.5)

(3.6)

$$\left\| \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)} T_j B_{j-s,1+i\tau} \right\|_1 \le C \sum_{j>s} \|B_{j-s,1+i\tau}\|_1 \le C' \|b\|_p^p$$

$$\|2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)} T_j B_{0,1+i\tau}\|_1 \le C \|B_0\|_p^p \le C' \|b\|_p^p.$$

From estimates in [7] (or [15]) it follows that

(3.7) 
$$\left\| \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)} T_j B_{j-s,1+i\tau} \right\|_2^2 \le C 2^{-s/2} \alpha^p \|b\|_p^p$$

(3.8) 
$$||2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)}T_jB_{0,1+i\tau}||_2^2 \le C2^{-j/2}||b||_p^p$$

and also that

(3.9)

$$\left\| \sum_{j \geq 0} 2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)} T_j B_{j+\sigma,1+i\tau} \right\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \Omega_1)} \leq C 2^{-\sigma} \sum_{j \geq 0} \|B_{j+\sigma,1+i\tau}\|_1 \leq C' 2^{-\sigma} \|b\|_p^p.$$

Using the inequality  $||F||_r \le C||F||_1^{\frac{2}{r}-1}||F||_2^{2-\frac{2}{r}}$  we get from (3.5), (3.7) and from (3.6), (3.8) that

(3.10) 
$$\left\| \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)} T_j B_{j-s,1+i\tau} \right\|_r^r \le C 2^{-s\frac{r-1}{2}} \alpha^{p(r-1)} \|b\|_p^p$$

(3.11) 
$$||2^{-j\gamma(1+i\tau)}T_jB_{0,1+i\tau}||_r^r \le C2^{-j\frac{r-1}{2}}\alpha^{p(r-1)}||b||_p^p.$$

Now by Theorem 2.1 it follows that

(3.12)

$$\left\| \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\gamma(i\tau)} T_j B_{j-s,i\tau} \right\|_r^r \le C \sum_{j>s} \|B_{j-s,i\tau}\|_r^r \le C' \|b\|_p^p$$

(3.13) 
$$||2^{-j\gamma(i\tau)}T_jB_{0,i\tau}||_r^r \le C||B_{0,i\tau}||_r^r \le C'||b||_p^p$$

(3.14)

$$\left\| \sum_{j \geq 0} 2^{-j\gamma(i\tau)} T_j B_{j+\sigma,i\tau} \right\|_r^r \leq C \sum_{j \geq 0} \|B_{j+\sigma,i\tau}\|_r^r \leq C' \|b\|_p^p.$$

Now let h be arbitrary function in  $L^{p'}$ , p' = p/(p-1), with  $||h||_{p'} \le 1$  and define

$$h_z(x) = |h(x)|^{zp'/r'} \operatorname{sign}(h(x)).$$

Moreover let g be an arbitrary function in  $L^{r'}$  with  $||g||_{r'} \leq 1$ . We then apply the Phragmen-Lindelöf principle to the functions

$$z \mapsto W_{1,s}(z) = \int \sum_{j>s} 2^{-j\gamma(z)} T_j B_{j-s,z}(x) g(x) dx$$
$$z \mapsto W_{2,j}(z) = \int 2^{-j\gamma(z)} T_j B_{0,z}(x) g(x) dx$$
$$z \mapsto W_{3,\sigma}(z) = \int \sum_{j>0} 2^{-j\gamma(z)} T_j B_{j+\sigma,z}(x) h_z(x) dx$$

and estimate these functions at  $z = \theta$  chosen such that  $1/p = (1 - \theta) + \theta/r$ . From (3.10), (3.12), from (3.11), (3.13) and from (3.9), (3.14) it follows that

$$|W_{1,s}(\theta)| \le C\alpha^{r-p} 2^{-\frac{s}{2}(\frac{r}{p}-1)} ||b||_p^p$$
  

$$|W_{2,j}(\theta)| \le C\alpha^{r-p} 2^{-\frac{j}{2}(\frac{r}{p}-1)} ||b||_p^p$$
  

$$|W_{3,\sigma}(\theta)| \le C2^{-\sigma(\frac{r}{p}-1)} ||b||_p^p$$

and an application of the converse of Hölder's inequality yields (3.2), (3.3) and (3.4).

**Remark.** Endpoint versions for more general classes of multiplier transformations have been formulated in [15]. By combining arguments in this and the present paper one can prove similar results for radial Fourier multipliers of  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$ , for the full range  $1 \le p < 4/3$ .

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